

USSN: 10/563,601
U.S. National Phase of PCT/EP2004/051454
Attorney Docket: I-2003.005 US
Preliminary Amendment

REMARKS

Upon entry of this preliminary amendment, claims 1-21 will be pending in this application, with claims 1 and 19 being the independent claims. Claims 1-21 are sought to be amended without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter of these claims as originally presented. Applicants have amended the claims to conform to U.S. patent practice and to remove all multiple dependencies. Support for inclusion in claim 1 of the recitation "amino acid sequence" can be found in Applicants' specification, for example, at page 4, line 32 to page 5, line 4. Support for inclusion in claim 1 of the recitation "wherein said sequence provides prophylactic or therapeutic treatment of an infection or its clinical signs caused by an organism of the family Babesiidae" can be found in Applicants' specification, for example, in the Abstract or at page 24, lines 3-6. Claim 14 has also been amended to clarify that *icterohaemorrhagiae*, *pomona*, *grippytyphosa*, and *bratislava* are specific serovars of *Leptospira interrogans*. Support for all claim amendments can be found in the originally filed claims. Applicants have not raised any issue of new matter.

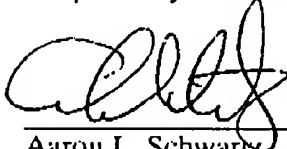
The specification is in the proper format. The present claims define patentable subject matter and are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Should it be believed that a conference would be helpful in advancing the prosecution of this application, Examiner is invited to telephone Applicants' attorney at the number below.

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If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2334 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,



Aaron L. Schwartz
Registration No. 48,181
Attorney for Applicants

Patent Counsel
Patent Department
Intervet Inc.
P.O. Box 318
29160 Intervet Lane
Millsboro, DE 19966
(302) 933-4034 (tel)
(302) 934-4305 (fax)